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COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone) REPORT NO. 25X1

TOPIC Volkspolizei Dienststelle 2915 in Halle

EVALUATION 25X1 PLACE OBTAINED 25X1

DATE OF CONTENT 25X1

DATE OBTAINED 11 February 1952 DATE PREPARED 11 February 1952

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. Prior to 3 December 1951, Volkspolizei Dienststelle (VPD) 2915 was stationed in the barracks installation of the former German Armed Forces on Paracelsusstrasse, Halle. The unit numbered 1,600 police and was organized as a standard-type VPD.

2. The weapons of the VPD included medium and heavy mortars, 76.2-mm AT guns, 76.2-mm field howitzers, 122-mm field howitzers, 1 76.2-mm SP gun, 2 x 88-mm AA guns and 1 T-34 tank.

3. The following key officers of the VPD were identified:

<u>Rank and name.</u>	<u>Appointment.</u>
VP Kommandeur Kiep (fnu)	Commanding Officer.
VP Kommandeur Mellutin (fnu)	Sovietnik supervising artillery training.
VP Kommandeur Mehle (fnu)	Deputy commander and PK officer.
VP Kommandeur Schwarz (fnu)	Chief of Staff.
VP Kommandeur Larisch (fnu)	Administrative Officer.
VP Kommandeur Danschke (fnu)	Director of training.
VP Oberrat Hendrich (fnu)	Director of artillery training.
VP Oberrat Schoenwald (fnu)	Director of armored training, allegedly an ex-tank officer, who was schooled in the U.S.S.R.
VP Oberrat Mueller (fnu)	Head of the Party Control Commission.
VP Julius Jung	Commanding officer of the 7th Sonderabteilung, an ex-tank officer who was schooled in the U.S.S.R.
VP Rat Herrmann (fnu)	Party secretary.

4. VP Kommandeur Kollitsch (fnu), previously director of armored training of the VPD, was reassigned to the HVA. The tank driving instruction of the personnel of the 7th Sonderabteilung took place in the area of the Brandberge (hills) near Halle. The unit's T-34 tank was driven to the training area at night and stayed there for several weeks until the end of the instruction cycle. No live shells were fired from the tank up to December 1951. It was rumored that training in 1952 would

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be conducted on a larger scale, with the 7th Sonderabteilung (Armored Section) of the VPDs being pooled into a special tank unit in an effort to practice at higher unit level. *

25X1 * Comment. Previous information indicates that, at the end of 1951, the training of the NVA units was revised and adapted to a two-year program with the final goal of training at the level of reinforced Kommandos under the individual VPDs. It therefore appears possible that, in 1952, police tank units may practice at the level of tank battalions.

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